

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (previously presented) An automated teller machine (ATM) comprising:

    a banknote cassette arranged to store banknotes;

    a banknote presenter arranged to present banknotes to an ATM customer;

    a banknote transport path coupling the banknote cassette and the banknote presenter;

    a banknote pick mechanism associated with the banknote cassette and arranged to pick banknotes from the banknote cassette;

    a transport mechanism arranged to transport picked banknotes along the banknote transport path from the banknote cassette to the banknote presenter;

    a first banknote sensor in the form of a first wireless tag reader disposed along the banknote transport path and arranged to wirelessly detect banknotes being transported along the banknote transport path from the banknote cassette to the banknote presenter; and

    a controller arranged to (i) control the banknote pick mechanism to pick banknotes a required number of times from the banknote cassette to fulfill a banknote dispense request made by the ATM customer, and (ii) control the

banknote pick mechanism to change the required number of times banknotes are to be picked from the banknote cassette based upon an actual number of banknotes which have been detected by the first wireless tag reader as banknotes are being transported along the banknote transport path from the banknote cassette to the banknote presenter to fulfill the banknote dispense request which has been made by the ATM customer.

22. (previously presented) An ATM according to claim 21, wherein the banknote presenter is further arranged to retract presented banknotes which have not been removed by the ATM customer, and further comprising a second banknote sensor in the form of a second wireless tag reader disposed in the vicinity of the banknote presenter and arranged to (i) wirelessly detect banknotes being presented by the banknote presenter to the ATM customer so as to record the number of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer, and (ii) wirelessly detect banknotes being retracted by the banknote presenter so as to record the number of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter.

23. (currently amended) An ATM according to claim 22, wherein the controller is further arranged to (i) compare the recorded number of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer and the recorded number of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter, and (ii) provide a third signal which ~~can alert~~ alerts a human operator to investigate the banknote dispense request made by the ATM customer when the recorded number of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer and the recorded number of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter fail to match based upon the comparison.

24. (withdrawn) An automated teller machine (ATM) comprising:

    a banknote cassette arranged to store banknotes;

    a banknote presenter arranged to present banknotes to an ATM customer;

    a banknote transport path coupling the banknote cassette and the banknote presenter;

    a banknote pick mechanism associated with the banknote cassette and arranged to pick banknotes from the banknote cassette;

a transport mechanism arranged to transport picked banknotes along the banknote transport path from the banknote cassette to the banknote presenter;

a first banknote sensor in the form of a first wireless tag reader disposed along the banknote transport path and arranged to wirelessly read a denomination value associated with each banknote being transported along the banknote transport path from the banknote cassette to the banknote presenter; and

a controller arranged to (i) control the banknote pick mechanism to pick banknotes a required number of times from the banknote cassette to fulfill a banknote dispense request made by the ATM customer, and (ii) control the banknote pick mechanism to change the required number of times banknotes are to be picked from the banknote cassette based upon a total of denomination values of banknotes which have been read by the first wireless tag reader as banknotes are being transported along the banknote transport path from the banknote cassette to the banknote presenter to fulfill the banknote dispense request which has been made by the ATM customer.

25. (withdrawn) An ATM according to claim 24, wherein the banknote presenter is further arranged to retract presented

banknotes which have not been removed by the ATM customer, and further comprising a second banknote sensor in the form of a second wireless tag reader disposed in the vicinity of the banknote presenter and arranged to (i) wirelessly read a denomination value associated with each banknote being presented by the banknote presenter to the ATM customer so as to record a total of denomination values of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer, and (ii) wirelessly read a denomination value associated with each banknote being retracted by the banknote presenter so as to record a total of denomination values of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter.

26. (withdrawn) An ATM according to claim 25, wherein the controller is further arranged to (i) compare the total of denomination values of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer and the total of denomination values of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter, and (ii) provide a third signal which can alert a human operator to investigate the banknote dispense request made by the ATM customer when the total of denomination values of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer and the total of denomination values of

banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter fail to match based upon the comparison.

27. (withdrawn) An automated teller machine (ATM) comprising:

    a banknote store arranged to store banknotes deposited by an ATM customer;

    a banknote transport path coupling the banknote store and a deposit aperture through which the ATM customer can deposit banknotes;

    a transport mechanism arranged to transport deposited banknotes along the banknote transport path from the deposit aperture to the banknote store;

    a wireless tag reader disposed along the banknote transport path and arranged to wirelessly read a unique serial number associated with each banknote being transported along the banknote transport path from the deposit aperture to the banknote store; and

    a controller arranged to store deposit information including both ATM customer information and the unique serial number of each banknote deposited by the ATM customer so that a particular banknote can be identified and associated with the particular ATM customer if the

particular banknote is subsequently identified as being counterfeit based upon the stored deposit information.

28. (previously presented) A method of operating an automated teller machine (ATM), the method comprising:

    wirelessly detecting banknotes being transported along a banknote transport path from a banknote cassette to a banknote presenter which is arranged to present banknotes to an ATM customer;

    providing a first control signal at a first time to a banknote pick mechanism to pick banknotes a required number of times from the banknote cassette to fulfill a banknote dispense request made by the ATM customer; and

    providing a second control signal at a second time which is after the first time to the banknote pick mechanism to change the required number of times banknotes are to be picked from the banknote cassette based upon an actual number of banknotes which have been wirelessly detected as banknotes are being transported from the banknote cassette to the banknote presenter to fulfill the banknote dispense request which has been made by the ATM customer.

29. (previously presented) A method according to claim 28, further comprising:

    wirelessly detecting banknotes being presented by the banknote presenter to the ATM customer so as to record the number of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer; and

    wirelessly detecting banknotes being retracted by the banknote presenter so as to record the number of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter.

30. (currently amended) A method according to claim 29, further comprising:

    comparing the recorded number of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer and the recorded number of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter; and

    providing a third signal which ~~can alert~~ alerts a human operator to investigate the banknote dispense request made by the ATM customer when the recorded number of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer and the recorded number of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter fail to match based upon the comparison.

31. (withdrawn) A method of operating an automated teller machine (ATM), the method comprising:

    wirelessly reading a denomination value associated with each banknote being transported along a banknote transport path from a banknote cassette to a banknote presenter;

    providing a first control signal at a first time to a banknote pick mechanism to pick banknotes a required number of times from the banknote cassette to fulfill a banknote dispense request made by the ATM customer; and

    providing a second control signal at a second time which is after the first time to the banknote pick mechanism to change the required number of times banknotes are to be picked from the banknote cassette based upon a total of denomination values of banknotes which have been read as banknotes are being transported along the banknote transport path from the banknote cassette to the banknote presenter to fulfill the banknote dispense request which has been made by the ATM customer.

32. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, further comprising:

    wirelessly reading a denomination value associated with each banknote being presented by the banknote

presenter to the ATM customer so as to record a total of denomination values of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer; and

    wirelessly reading a denomination value associated with each banknote being retracted by the banknote presenter so as to record a total of denomination values of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter.

33. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 32, further comprising:

    comparing the total of denomination values of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer and the total of denomination values of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter; and

    providing a third signal which can alert a human operator to investigate the banknote dispense request made by the ATM customer when the total of denomination values of banknotes which have been presented to the ATM customer and the total of denomination values of banknotes which have been retracted by the banknote presenter fail to match based upon the comparison.

34. (withdrawn) A method of operating an automated teller machine (ATM), the method comprising:

    wirelessly reading a unique serial number associated with each banknote deposited by an ATM customer; and

    storing deposit information including both ATM customer information and the unique serial number of each banknote deposited by the ATM customer so that a particular banknote can be identified and associated with the particular ATM customer if the particular banknote is subsequently identified as being counterfeit based upon the stored deposit information.